



A Force for Positive
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American Probation and Parole Association

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Deb Minardi, Deputy Probation Administrator of Community-Based Supervision, Programming and Services--Lincoln, Nebraska

Nebraska Probation Receives APPA's Prestigious President's Award at Washington. DC Conference

Nebraska Probation System was awarded the American Probation and Parole Association's (APPA) prestigious **PRESIDENT'S AWARD** for development and implementation of Nebraska's unique Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision (SSAS) Program. Nebraska's one-of-a-kind program provides felony drug offenders who are either headed for or released from prison the opportunity to address their substance addictions while gaining skills needed to become productive citizens in their communities. SSAS participants more closely mirror inmates as their elevated LS/CMI scores are 23 or greater. Through targeting the specific treatment and programming needs of these individuals, Nebraska Probation is beginning to see more promising outcomes.

SSAS implementation served a number of justice priorities and successfully crossed governmental branches as part of a seamless statewide approach to address not only prison overcrowding but also to provide additional effective sentencing alternatives for Nebraska's judges. It also provides dedicated appropriate services and resources for non-violent, but at high risk to reoffend, probationers and parolees. SSAS integrates with Nebraska's Behavioral Health Public and Private networks and provides significant outcome data for the state's legislators predicated on the value and cost benefit of increasing an offender's ability to become a productive citizen.

Deb Minardi, Deputy Probation Administrator of Community-Based Supervision, Programming and Services, accepted the award during the APPA opening session on August 15, 2010. APPA's President, and Chief Probation Officer for the Maricopa County (Phoenix, AZ) Adult Probation Department, Barbara Broderick, presented the plaque to Ms. Minardi with her congratulations.

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